



# Bent-Prowers Cattle & Horse Growers Association

Serving Baca, Bent, Kiowa, Otero & Prowers counties ♦ Organized in 1870

The 138<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the Bent-Prowers Cattle & Horse Growers Association convened at 1:25 p.m. Saturday, March 17<sup>th</sup>, 2007 at the Otero Junior College in La Junta, Colo., with Jim Rogers presiding.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the Southeast Colorado Junior Cattlemen's Association members. The welcome and introduction of guests was given by Pres. Jim Rogers.

Dr. Norm Dalsted of Colo. State University, was the keynote speaker on estate planning. Guest speakers included Mike Smith, Colo. Dept. of Wildlife area manager; John Stulp, Colo. Dept. of Agriculture commissioner; Nita Howard, Colo. Beef Council checkoff compliance manager; Rick Wahlert, Colo. Brand Board commissioner; Terry Fankhauser, Colo. Cattlemen's Assoc. executive vice president; and Polly Ruhland, National Cattlemen's Beef Assoc. vice president of affiliate relations and member services.

Pres. Jim Rogers called the business meeting to order at 4:50 p.m. Amber Rink gave the Southeast Colorado Junior Cattlemen report and Jo Ann McEndree gave the Southeast Colorado CattleWomen report.

Minutes were distributed. Steve McEndree moved and Timy Trosper seconded to dispense with the reading of the minutes from the last annual meeting and approve them as printed. Motion passed by voice vote.

The audit report, given by Lori Chase, outlined the fiscal year financial summary. Tim Erickson moved and James "Red" Heath seconded to accept the audit committee's report. Motion passed by voice vote. The audit committee also distributed the 2007 proposed budget. Bruce Fickenscher moved and Mike Dutton seconded to accept the budget as presented. Motion passed by voice vote. The Bent-Prowers Endowment Trust report was given by Pat Karney. Steve McEndree moved and John Smartt seconded to accept the trust report. Motion passed by voice vote.

Bruce Fickenscher and Jim Rogers report on the association's relief efforts to aid the region in recovery from the late December 2006 back-to-back blizzards. Hay drops, and bagging and distributing dried brewer's grain pellets both were coordinated. The men thanked Ark Valley Alfalfa, WW Feed & Supply, La Junta Mill & Elevator and the local extension offices for their extra efforts to aid the agriculture community.

Two funds have been set up.

On the statewide level, with unified efforts by Colo. Farm Bureau, Colo. Cattlemen's Assoc., and Colo. Livestock Assoc., 75 percent of the donations will be distributed to livestock producers from counties declared disaster areas. Representatives are sought to serve on the unified board to coordinate the distribution of monies. And, 25 percent will go into a fund for future disasters.

On the local level, the Bent-Prowers Cattlemen board also will be discussing distribution. Input is being sought.

In resolutions, Jim Rogers presented the following:

Whereas, since the last annual meeting many of our beloved and valued members passed to their reward. We who remain, have enjoyed and benefitted from their association and we are saddened by their absence.

We share the sorrow of their families and loved ones and to their memory, we pledge to support the principles which these great men and women, who have gone before us, have firmly instilled in our association.

Therefore be it resolved, the members of Bent-Prowers Cattle & Horse Growers Association, now stand to take a moment to memorialize our deceased members.

Jo Ann McEndree moved and Hans Hasser seconded the resolution. Motion passed by voice vote and the crowd rose for a minute of silence.



Bill Gray then presented the following:

Whereas, the blizzard of December 2006 killed thousands of cattle and cost millions of dollars to producers, and

Whereas, the USDA does not have a plan to deal with a disaster of this nature,

Therefore be it resolved, Bent Prowers Cattle & Horse Growers Association requests the USDA to develop a plan that considers livestock and financial losses, including crop losses, in the case of a catastrophic blizzard, ice storm or wild fire. Specifically, USDA should consider the following.

◆ Grazing seasons often include times when grass is not in a growth stage, for instance, winter grazing.

◆ Crop loss should include instances of the grass being covered with snow or ice at a depth where livestock can not utilize the grass for extended periods of time.

◆ Timely assistance that can be applied at the time of the disaster.

James "Red" Heath moved and Steve McEndree seconded to approve the resolution. Through a friendly amendment, the word "grass" was changed to "grass &/or forage" throughout the resolution. As changed, motion passed by voice vote.

The nominating committee of Milton Rink, Jim Rogers, Pat Karney and Steve McEndree were thanked and presented their slate of officers and directors:

Baca County directors: John George, Reggie Lusk, Steve McEndree and one vacancy;

Bent County directors: Lori Chase, Pat Karney, Joe Kasza, and one vacancy;

Kiowa County directors: Bruce Fickenscher, Paul Kelley, Timy Trosper and Randy Williams;

Otero County directors: Bill Gray, Dave Mendenhall and Curt Russell and one vacancy; and

Prowers County directors: Kenny Emick, James "Red" Heath, Milton Rink and Brian Shaw.

There were no nominations from the floor. Steve McEndree moved and Bruce Fickenscher seconded to accept the director slate by acclamation. Motion passed by voice vote.

The officer slate of Susan Russell, secretary/treasurer; Ron O'Neal, second vice president; Mike Dutton, first vice president and Jo Ann McEndree, president was presented. Hans Hasser moved and Milton Rink seconded to close nominations and elect Susan Russell as secretary by acclamation. Motion passed. Steve McEndree moved and Hans Hasser seconded to close nominations and elect Ron O'Neal as second vice president by acclamation. Motion passed. Hans Hasser moved and Milton Rink seconded to close nominations and elect Mike Dutton as first vice president by acclamation. Motion passed. Ron O'Neal moved and Timy Trosper seconded to close nominations and elect Jo Ann McEndree as president by acclamation. Motion passed.

In further new business, Bill Gray discussed a prairie dog protection effort being initiated by animal rights groups. Colo. Cattleman's Assoc. is asking local affiliates to provide financial support to fight this protected status. Gray challenged Bent-Prowers Cattlemen members to come up with \$1000 to go to the CCA fund.

The Colo. Brand Board vacancy was discussed. Mike Dutton moved and Lori Chase seconded that Bent-Prowers Cattlemen write a letter of recommendation to place Harold Yoder on the brand board. Motion passed.

The business meeting was declared adjourned at 5:30 p.m. and immediately was followed by the cowboy punch bowl. The banquet and cowboy ball rounded out the evening.

Respectfully submitted,



Susan Russell, sec./treas.